Data in brief 25 (2019) 103998



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Data in brief

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/dib

# Data Article

Data on species and concentration of the main gaseous products during sludge combustion to support the feasibility of using sludge as a flue gas denitration agent for the cement industry



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# ARTICLE INFO

Article history: Received 19 March 2019 Received in revised form 17 April 2019 Accepted 9 May 2019 Available online 24 May 2019

Keywords: Sludge Gaseous products Combustion Cement industry

# ABSTRACT

The dataset presented in this article is the supplementary data for the research article Fang et al., 2019 [1] and provided detailed data profile to support that sludge is an effective  $NO_X$  reducing agent, as reductive gas components produce during sludge combustion. The instantaneous concentrations of the main gaseous products during sludge combustion were detected by using Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR, DX-4000, Gasmet Technologies). The results showed the distribution and concentration level of gaseous products during sludge combustion and evidenced the feasibility of using sludge as a deNO<sub>X</sub> agent in cement industry.

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DOI of original article: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2019.03.175.

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2019.103998

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#### Specifications table

Subject area	Environmental Engineering			
More specific subject area	Sewage sludge combustion gaseous products			
Type of data	Figure, Table			
How data was acquired	The species and concentration of the main gaseous products during sludge combustion were obtained by using FTIR (DX-4000, Gasmet Technologies, Finland)			
Data format	Raw, analyzed			
Experimental factors	<ul> <li>Sewage sludge was collected from a municipal wastewater treatment plant located in the suburbs of Guangzhou, China</li> </ul>			
	- 0.5 g dried sludge was used with the combustion temperature of 900 °C, O <sub>2</sub> of 3% (v/v), CO <sub>2</sub> of 25% (v/v), N <sub>2</sub> as an equilibrium gas, total gas flow rate of 18 L/min. Schematic of the experiment apparatus is shown as Fig. 1			
	- The species and concentration of the main gaseous products during sludge combustion process instantaneously yields are given in Table 1			
Experimental features	Species and concentration of the main gaseous products during sludge combustion			
Data source location	Guangzhou, China, 23°7′17″N 113°21′37″E			
Data accessibility	Data are accessible with the article			
Related research article	P. Fang, Z.J. Tang, X. Xiao, J.H. Huang, X.B. Chen, P.Y. Zhong, Z.X. Tang, C.P. Cen, Using sewage sludge as a flue gas denitration agent for the cement industry: Factor assessment and feasibility, J. Clean. Prod., 224, 2019, 292–303 [1].			

#### Value of the data

• The data provided here is important for sewage sludge disposal and cement kilns which co-dispose sewage sludge.

• The data provides detail information of the species and concentration levels of the main gaseous products during sludge combustion under typical cement kiln atmosphere condition.

• The data presents evidence that sewage sludge can be used as a deNOx agent in cement industry.

• The data will be helpful to be referenced and compared with other researches and for future studies on the sewage sludge coordinated disposal in cement kiln.

# 1. Data

Wastewater treatment plant generate large amount of sewage sludge. Typical sewage sludge options include landfilling, incineration and enrichment of soils [2-5]. The Chinese cement industry output is account for more than half of the cement output worldwide [6], thus the large quantities of NO<sub>X</sub> in the flue gas discharging from cement industry deserve special attention. In this dataset, the species and concentrations of gaseous products during sludge combustion were obtained to evaluate the feasibility of using sewage sludge as a deNO<sub>X</sub> agent in cement industry.

This dataset contains 1 figure and 1 table. Fig. 1 presents the schematic of the horizontal tubular furnace reactor system, which simulated the typical cement kiln reaction atmosphere conditions. Table 1 list the instantaneous concentrations of the main gaseous products during sludge combustion respectively.

#### 2. Experimental design, materials, and methods

#### 2.1. Collection and preparation of sample

The dewatered sewage sludge sample was collected from a municipal wastewater treatment plant located in Guangzhou, China. The preparation and characterization are shown in the research article Fang et al., 2019 [1].

## 2.2. Experimental procedure

Experiments were conducted in a custom-built horizontal tubular furnace reactor (Fig. 1), which was different from the vertical fluidized-bed reactor used in Fang et al., 2019 [1]. The reactor is composed of a simulated gas unit, a horizontal tubular furnace, a flue gas sampling and online



Fig. 1. Schematic of the horizontal tubular furnace reactor system.

Table 1	
The instantaneous concentrations of the main gaseous products during sludge combustion	n.

Reaction time(s)	CO (vol%)	NO (ppm)	NO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)	N <sub>2</sub> O (ppm)	$NH_3$ (ppm)	CH <sub>4</sub> (ppm)	HCN (ppm)
5	0.42	525.01	14.49	17.41		1086.87	388.31
10	1.89	1230.04		26.76	3.62	8168.98	1007.6
15	1.08	931.49	16.75	46.78	11.55	4408.18	1444.9
20	0.41	296.70		30.98	26.6	634.92	520.67
25	0.17	109.91		21.41	67.99	167.7	258.39
30	0.08	35.37		20.57	44.6	39.81	94.9
35	0.05	11.99		8.5	31.66	8.23	43.86
40	0.04	6.30		7.47	29.79	4.27	22.79
45	0.03	7.92		6.61	27.48	1.86	14.34
50	0.03	11.09		5.64	23.24	0.97	13.94
55	0.03	7.97		8.44	26.35	0.31	7.08
60	0.02	8.39		6.57	23.11		6.16
65	0.02	12.29		3.15	24.26		4.11
70	0.02	9.53		3.16	22.45		6.9
75	0.02	4.47		2.6	21.16		6.33
80	0.02	3.21		1.94	19.92		5.2
85	0.02	0.99		1.61	18.58		2.49
90	0.01	0.91		1.36	17.81		0.89
95	0.02	1.59		1.12	18.59		
100	0.02	2.23		0.9	16.74		
105	0.02	4.54		0.62	16.32		
110	0.02	0.17		1.93	17.59		
115	0.01	4.34		2.17	14.94		
120	0.01	0		1.84	14.68		
125	0.01	3.72		2.06	16.26		
130	0.01	3.11		1.92	14.82		
135	0.01	0		1.56	14.89		
140	0.01	2.88		0.79	14.53		
145	0.01	3.03			14.65		
150	0.01				11.82		
155	0.01				12.77		
160	0.01				10.48		
165	0.01				12.09		
170	0.01				11.91		
175	0.01				8.79		
180	0.01				10.8		
185	0.01				8.2		
190	0.01				10.37		

detection unit, and an absorption unit. N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> were obtained from cylinders and metered by mass flow controllers (Beijing seven-star electronics Co., Ltd., China). N<sub>2</sub> was selected as the equilibrium gas, O<sub>2</sub> of 3% (v/v), and CO<sub>2</sub> of 25% (v/v) were used to compose the reaction gas to simulate the typical cement kiln atmosphere [7]. The total simulated gas flow rate was 18 L/min. After mixed in the mixing tank, the simulated gas went through the horizontal tubular furnace (14 cm in diameter and 120 cm in length). 0.5 g dried sludge in the quartz boat was pushed into the 900 °C flat-temperature zone after the gas mixture introduced into the furnace for 5 min, instead of using a screw feeder in Fang et al., 2019 [1]. The species and instantaneous concentration of the gaseous products during the sludge combustion in the outlet of the furnace were measured by using a portable FTIR analyzer (DX-4000 Gasmet Technologies, Finland). All the data were collected by computer automatically every 5 s, which tabulated in Table 1.

# Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC-51778264), the Project of Science and Technology Program of Guangdong Province (2017B020237002 and 2018B020208002), the Youth Top-notch Talent Special Support Program of Guangdong Province (2016TQ03Z576), and the Pearl River S and T Nova Program of Guangzhou (201610010150).

## **Conflict of interset**

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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